

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S E C R E T

COUNTRY	East Germany/Sino-Soviet Bloc	REPORT	<input type="text"/>	25X1
SUBJECT	Leipzig Trade Fair and Soviet Bloc Commercial Interests	DATE DISTR.	3 August 1955	25X1
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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. Conversation with Russians at the Leipzig Fair showed their high ~~primary~~ interest in copper. Copper scrap, concentrates, slag - anything with more than 12% copper content - were being eagerly sought. Such copper would be refined in East Germany or Poland and reshipped to the USSR.
2. On returning from the Leipzig Fair a visit was made to the China National Import-Export Corporation (CNIEC) office in East Berlin. The Chinese Communists indicated an urgent need for steel plates and boiler plates from 20 mm to 50 mm in thickness. The Chinese are trying to build a navy and merchant fleet as rapidly as possible but find themselves handicapped by Western export control regulations. All shipments must be made C.I.F.

S E C R E T

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")